1/9/71

Paul and Gary-Confidential

As I'd written earlier, Bud and Jim worked here all day on our preparations for the Ray case. I have a few minutes before supper. I use it to report on the copying of the documents and to report receipt of a letter from Mary, which I've had time to scan in haste only. She wrote it the fifth, two days after I tried to call her. There is reference to neither my attempt to reach her by phone nor her hearing of it.

Jim did what I asked, as did Bud, who arranged things woth Arch in what I believe will be by far the most expeditious way. The copying apparently has been commenced. I'll return to it. Jim also made a rough inventory, which he hasn't yet been able to type. And he got the CD 75 pages for me. My hunch was correct. The very cooperative archives, which so kindly [illegible] did not send me most of the declassified and some of the more important Ferrie material. I will, ultimately, do a memo on all of it, not just what I have done and sent you. It is exactly as I had feared, there is an enormous potential here, much that will not be apparent to most, not even to you unless your memories are better than mine now is.

Among the things here is confirmation of Dean Andrews in Dallas. It is not likely will be recognized, bearing very much on his claim that what wasn't wanted wasn't reported. He did tell the FBI in these pages and to the best of my knowledge not elsewhere. I do not believe the FBI or the Commission showed them to him. Therefore, I assume he knew what he was talking about. There is also here clues to his false fingering of Gene Davis, the reason for it, etc. I can't go into all of it now. The beginning of the whitewash is readily apparent and should be to both og you.

This small sampling, perhaps 50-60 pages, is ample confirmation of my greatest fears. What can not be seen [illegible] is not there, but it is an important, very important, most [illegible] understanding of what is now available nor redistribution of it be sooner than is yet possible [illegible].

Some of this is so glaring, whether or not accurate (and not just on Ferrie), that the irresponsible may well rush into print with individual pages, which do lend themselves to it...For the most part, there was not even a remote possibility of proper withholding of this stuff. In some cases, the homo stuff and the arrest records could have been invoked. If honest, these reports can be interpreted consistently with what I have interpreted the first batch and between guilty knowledge on the part of those most closely connected with that Ferrie trip, its withholding by the investigating agents, etc.

The mechanics are these: Bud will get the while thing, in batches of about 250 pp. Immediately copies will be made for Arch, Paul, me and a duplicate set, the originals all being files as a unit and accessible to those who may at some time require clearer copies for special purposes, like reporduction. Except in one case, all the pages Jim got me are quite clear. That one, illegible, was withheld even though published. In the published form (not identical, but seeming to be) it is very clear. So, everyone will get clear copies faster (Arch, as it turn out, has very serious family problems and is very busy). I repeat, with emphasis, that the success of the work requires that to the degree possible there be no volunteering of what we have to the nuts, irresponsibles, elf-seeker, etc. I certainly expect no redistribution of any of my notes and interpretations. There is nothing I can do to compel that my opinion be hamit heeded, but this added smaple convinces me that damage has been done and to the degree possible it must be minimized.

Hastily,

Some of the obvious error should be closely analysed, and I'd welcome opinion. Example: HEW saying LHO went to Russia to be Embassy radar operator. I find itpossible to interpret this as misunderstanding of several probably truthful reports.